

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic still camera for capturing images that can be transferred to a service provider for storage, the electronic still camera comprising:

- (a) an image sensor for capturing a plurality of images of scenes and for producing image signals representative of the corresponding scenes;
- (b) an analog-to-digital converter for digitizing the image signals to produce digital images;
- (c) a removable memory card for storing a plurality of digital image files corresponding to the digital images;
- (d) an internal memory for storing at least one digital image to be displayed;
- (e) a processor for controlling the transfer of the digital images from the removable memory card to the internal memory and for producing a utilization file;
- (f) a display coupled to the internal memory for displaying at least one digital image; and
- (g) a user interface for scrolling through the plurality of digital images stored on the removable memory card in order to display and select particular digital images to be transferred to the service provider, wherein the utilization file includes the name of at least one digital image file to be transferred to the service provider and the processor stores the utilization file on the removable memory card separate from the digital image files.

2. The electronic still camera as claimed in claim 1 wherein the user interface further enables selection of particular digital image files to be printed, and the utilization file further includes the names of at least one digital image file to be printed by the service provider.

3. The electronic still camera as claimed in claim 1 further including a communications interface which interfaces to a communications network for transferring the selected digital image files to the service provider.

4. The electronic still camera as claimed in claim 3 wherein the communications interface includes a transmitter.

5. The electronic still camera as claimed in claim 4 wherein the transmitter provides a cellular connection.

6. The electronic still camera as claimed in claim 4 wherein the electronic still camera provides a send command to initiate transfer of the selected digital image files to the service provider using the transmitter.

7. The electronic still camera as claimed in claim 1 further including a separate docking unit having a modem for transferring the selected digital image files to the service provider.

8. The electronic still camera as claimed in claim 1 wherein the user interface selects at least one group of users to provide permission to view the images stored by the service provider.

9. The electronic still camera as claimed in claim 8 wherein the permitted group of users is identified in the utilization file.

10. The electronic still camera as claimed in claim 1 wherein the utilization file further includes the file type of each digital image file.

11. The electronic still camera as claimed in claim 10 wherein the file type of at least one digital image file is a JPEG file type.

12. The electronic still camera as claimed in claim 1 wherein the utilization file further includes a camera owner name and a mailing address of such camera owner.

13. The electronic still camera as claimed in claim 12 wherein the utilization file further includes a credit card number of the camera owner.

14. A method for capturing digital images to be transferred to a service provider, comprising the steps of:

- (a) capturing a plurality of images of scenes and producing image signals representative of the corresponding scenes;
- (b) digitizing the image signals to produce digital images;
- (c) storing a plurality of digital image files corresponding to the digital images on a removable memory card;
- (d) providing a user interface for scrolling through the plurality of digital images stored on the removable memory card in order to display and select particular digital images to be transferred to the service provider;
- (e) in response to a user selecting particular digital images to be transferred, producing a utilization file and storing the utilization file on the removable memory card separate from the digital image files, wherein the utilization file identifies at least one digital image file to be transferred to the service provider.

15. The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the user interface further enables selection of particular digital image files to be printed, and the utilization file further identifying at least one digital image file to be printed by the service provider.

16. The method as claimed in claim 14 further including the step of interfacing to a communications network and transferring the selected digital image files to the service provider.

17. The method as claimed in claim 16 wherein the communications network includes a cellular transmitter.

18. The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the utilization file further includes the file type of each digital image file.

19. The method as claimed in claim 18 wherein the file type of at least one digital image file is a JPEG file type.

20. The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the utilization file further includes a camera owner name and a mailing address of such camera owner.

21. The method as claimed in claim 20 wherein the utilization file further includes a credit card number of the camera owner.